VZCZCXRO1374

PP RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN

DE RUEHLU #0592 2131428

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 311428Z JUL 08

FM AMEMBASSY LUANDA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4937

INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS LUANDA 000592

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL PHUM AO

SUBJECT: SADC TROIKA MEETING POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

REF: A. MOZENA-HARRIS TELCOM 7/30/08

¶B. MBABANE 000225
¶C. STATE 079617

11. (SBU) The SADC Troika meeting scheduled for Friday, August 4th has been postponed indefinitely, according to a July 31 public statement issued by President dos Santos' Office of Administrative Support. This statement confirms information given to the Ambassador by the South African Ambassador late on July 30th, which was subsequently conveyed to Washington (reftel A). The Troika meeting was called to discuss possible solutions to the Zimbabwe crisis and included planned consultations with South President Mbeki, President Mugabe and MDC leader Morgan Tsvangiai. Though no reason for the postponement was publicly given, the officials and the British Embassy told Poloff the postponement was reportedly due to Mbeki and Mugabe's decision not to discuss the issue outside of the negotiations currently underway.